

**2008- 2009 Consolidated Data Reports  
Crime and Violence, Suspensions and Expulsions, Dropout Counts and Rates**

**General Findings**

---

**1. Crime and Violence Data**

There are 17 reportable acts of crime and violence. Of the reportable acts, high schools reported 6,428 total acts. The number of total acts reported decreased by 10.3% from 2007-08 to 2008-09. However, due to an increase in average daily membership, the rate of acts reported decreased 3.3% per 1000 students in membership. Reportable acts for grades K-12 declined slightly from 11,276 in 2007-08 to 11,116 in 2008-09. Ten of the 17 acts are defined as violent offenses. Violent offenses represented 3.5% of the total reportable acts.

Of the ten LEAs reporting the lowest rates of reportable acts, seven LEAs reported zero acts for grades 9-12. They are Avery, Clinton City, Gates, Graham, Hyde, Jones, and Weldon City. The three additional LEAs reporting the lowest rates of reportable acts for grades 9-12 are Duplin, Pasquotank, and Washington.

LEAs with the largest 3-year decreases in rates of reportable acts were Avery, Clinton City, Graham, Gates, and Hyde.

LEAs reporting the highest rates of crime and violent acts for grades 9-12 are Alexander, Currituck, Durham, Forsyth, Hickory City, Kannapolis City, Moore, Robeson, Swain, and Transylvania.

LEAs with the largest 3-year increases in rates of reportable acts were \*Chapel Hill-Carrboro City, Madison, Swain, \*Thomasville City, and \*Yancey.

\*reportable act rate below the state average

Gender, Race, and Age:

Reportable acts were most frequently committed by students who were 9<sup>th</sup> graders and 16 years of age. In high school, males committed crimes at over three times the rate of females. Among ethnic groups in high school, American Indians had the highest crime rate, followed by Blacks, Multiracial, and Whites.

Reportable Acts:

The most frequently reported reportable acts in high school were 1) possession of a controlled substance in violation of the law, 2) possession of a weapon excluding firearms and powerful explosives, and 3) possession of an alcoholic beverage.

**2. Suspensions, Expulsions, and Alternative Learning Program Data**

**Short-Term Suspensions**

In grades 9-12, there were 143,378 short-term suspensions reported statewide in 2008-09, an increase of 0.6% from the 2007-08 total of 142,506. On average, one out of six high school students receives a short-term suspension each year. High school students who received short-term suspensions averaged slightly more than two suspensions each and missed an average of 6.41 days of school. The average duration of a single short-term suspension was 3.14 days. The grades 9-12 short-

term suspension rate was 3.48 suspensions per ten students. Short-term suspensions assigned to K-12 students declined from 308,010 in 2007-08 to 298,453 in 2008-09.

LEAs reporting the lowest rates of short-term suspensions for grades 9-12 are Avery, Chapel Hill-Carrboro City, Clay, Clinton City, Graham, Hyde, Mooresville City, Mount Airy City, Polk, and Yadkin.

LEAs with the largest 3-year decreases in short-term suspension rates are Avery, Clinton City, Hyde, Mooresville City, and Polk.

LEAs reporting the highest rates of short-term suspensions for grades 9-12 are Anson, Lenoir, Lexington City, Greene, Halifax, Macon, Northampton, Pamlico, Robeson, and Thomasville City.

LEAs with the largest 3-year increases in short-term suspension rates are \*Bladen, \*Elkin City, Macon, \*Newton-Conover City, and Weldon City.

\*suspension rate below the state average

Gender, Race, and Age:

Ninth grade students received the largest number of short-term suspensions. The rate of short-term suspensions for male students was 2.6 times higher than for females. Black students received the highest rate of short-term suspensions followed by American Indians. Short-term suspension rates for American Indians and Multiracial students increased in 2008-09, while rates for other ethnic groups remained constant or slightly declined.

### **Long-Term Suspensions**

High schools (grades 9-12) reported a sharp decline in long-term suspensions (11 or more days) from the previous year. There were 2,448 high school long-term suspensions, a 41.4% decrease for 2008-09; however, average school days per suspension increased from 41 days to 70 school days. Long-term suspensions assigned to K-12 students declined from 5,225 in 2007-08 to 3,592 in 2008-09.

**Expulsions** remained constant at 116 in 2008-09. High school students received 101 of these expulsions.

**Alternative schools and programs (ALPs)** reported 13,846 (duplicated count) student placements in 2008-09, a decrease of 12.2% from 2007-08. High schools reported 12,508 students placed in ALPs over the course of the 2008-09 school year.

Gender, Race, and Age:

Males were placed in ALPs at higher rates than females, and Black students were placed at rates higher than other ethnic groups. Ninth graders were placed in ALPs more frequently than students at any other grade level.

### **3. Dropout Counts and Rates**

High schools in North Carolina reported 19,184 dropouts in 2008-2009, a 14.9% decrease from the 22,234 count reported in 2007-2008. The grades 9-12 dropout rate in 2008-2009 was 4.27%, a 14.1% decrease from the 4.97% rate posted in 2007-08. There were a total of 19,825 dropouts reported in all grades (K-12), down from 23,341 in 2007-08.

LEAs with the lowest dropout rates are Burke, Carteret, Chapel Hill-Carrboro, Clay, Dare, Newton-Conover City, Elkin City, Hertford, Pamlico, and Tyrrell. (Dropout rates from 1.10 to 2.60)

LEAs with the largest 3-year decreases in grades 9-12 dropout rates are located in \*Burke, \*Clay, \*Northampton, \*Pamlico, \*and Tyrrell.  
\*dropout rate below the state average

LEAs reporting the highest dropout rates are Beaufort, Cleveland, Hickory City, Jackson, Kannapolis City, Madison, Pitt, Roanoke Rapids City, Swain, and Vance. (Dropout rates from 6.90 down to 5.98)

LEAs with the largest 3-year rate increases were Chatham, Edenton/Chowan, Madison, Warren, and Stanly.

Gender, Race, and Age:

All ethnic groups contributed to the decrease in the number of reported dropouts. The dropout rate for American Indian students declined for the fifth consecutive year. Males accounted for 59.0% of the reported dropouts. The number of students dropping out of school at ages 15 and 16 increased, while the number dropping out at ages 17 and older decreased.

Reason Codes:

For the fifth consecutive year, there is an increase in the "Enrollment in a Community College" dropout reason code. Attendance issues are the reason most often noted for a reported dropout, accounting for 42% of all dropouts.

#### **4. Consolidated Report Findings**

In 2008-09 there was a decrease in the number of acts and rates of crime in grades 9-12. The numbers and rates of dropouts and long-term suspensions in grade 9-12 declined; however, there was a slight increase in the number and rate of short-term suspensions.

Males were reported at higher rates than females on the three reports. Ninth grade students were reported in greater numbers than other grades in all three areas.

There were no LEAs reported on all three "top ten" lists of low rates of reportable acts, short-term suspensions, and dropouts for grades 9-12. Six LEAs were on two of the three "top ten" lists of low rates. These LEAs were Avery, Chapel Hill-Carrboro City, Clay, Clinton City, Graham, and Hyde.

No LEAs were on all three data reports for 3-year decreases in rates of reportable acts, short-term suspensions, and dropouts for grades 9-12; however, Avery, Clinton City, and Hyde were on two of the three lists for 3-year decreases.

<http://dpi.state.nc.us/docs/research/discipline/reports/consolidated/2008-09.pdf>